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In the Claims:

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1. (Currently Amended) A machine knife for trimming books or the like, having a knife support made of metal, which can be connected with a machine, and a blade made of a cutting material, which is to be connected with the knife support, characterized in that wherein the blade (7, 10, 11, 12), as a part which can be replaced in the knife support (1, 1", 1", 1"), is designed in such a way that it can be combined with a blade holder (4, 4", 4") to form an inseparable component, wherein the blade holder (4, 4", 4") is releasably attached to the knife support (1, 1", 1") and is of such a size and shape that it can be comfortably manipulated and securely positioned, wherein the knife support has a seam-shaped cutout for receiving the blade holder in a flat and flush manner, and boundary faces of the seam-shaped cutout at the inner end, the same as the boundary faces of the blade holder acting together with them, each extend at an angle of < 90° with respect to each other.

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2. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that wherein the blade holder (4, 4", 4") is made of metal, is essentially designed strip-shaped and has a slightly trapezoidal cross section.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that wherein the blade (7) has been embedded in a lock seam (8) on the free end of the blade holder (4).

6. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 5, characterized in that wherein boundary faces at the inner end of the lock seam (8), the same as the boundary faces of the blade (7) acting together with them, each extend at an angle of < 90° in respect to each other.

7. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that wherein the blade (10) has been embedded in a groove (9), which extends slightly inclined in respect to the surface of the blade holder (4).

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8. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that wherein at the knife tip the blade holder (4", 4") is recessed in respect to the knife support (1", 1")

and is shaped in such a way that the blade (11, 12) covers the blade holder (4", 4") over its full height and forms a contact face (13) used for support in relation to the cutout (3).

9. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 8, characterized in that wherein for a stronger connection with the blade holder (4") on the one hand, and for an improved support in relation to the cutout (3) on the other hand, the blade (12) has an extension section (14).

10. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 9, characterized in that wherein the extension section (14) is stepped in relation to the blade holder (4").

11. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that wherein the blade (7, 10, 11, 12) has been selected from ceramic material.

12. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that wherein the blade (7, 10, 11, 12) has a coating of a material, in particular diamonds, which is harder in comparison with the cutting material of the blade (7, 10, 11, 12).

13. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that wherein the blade (7, 10, 11, 12) is connected with the blade holder (4, 4", 4", 4") with the aid of a curable adhesive.

14. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that wherein the blade (7, 10, 11, 12) is connected with the blade holder (4, 4", 4", 4") with the aid of a soldering material.

15. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that wherein the blade (7, 10, 11, 12) is connected with the blade holder (4, 4", 4", 4") by means of welding, and in particular ultrasound welding.

16. (Currently Amended) The machine knife in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that wherein for the releasable connection between the knife support (1, 1", 1", 1") and the blade holder (4, 4", 4", 4") respectively a threaded bore (5) in the knife support (1, 1", 1", 1"), a pass-through bore (6), which is aligned with it and whose entry is widened, as well as screw means, which can be embedded in a flat and flush manner in the blade holder (4, 4", 4", 4"), are multiply provided.

17. (New) The machine knife in accordance with claim 6, wherein at the knife tip the blade holder is recessed in respect to the knife support and is shaped in such a way that the blade covers the blade holder over its full height and forms a contact face used for support in relation to the cutout.
18. (New) The machine knife in accordance with claim 17, wherein for a stronger connection with the blade holder on the one hand, and for an improved support in relation to the cutout on the other hand, the blade has an extension section.
19. (New) The machine knife in accordance with claim 18, wherein the extension section is stepped in relation to the blade holder.
20. (New) The machine knife in accordance with claim 6, wherein the blade has been selected from ceramic material.
21. (New) The machine knife in accordance with claim 20, wherein the blade has a coating of a material, in particular diamonds, which is harder in comparison with the cutting material of the blade.
22. (New) The machine knife in accordance with claim 20, wherein the blade is connected with the blade holder with the aid of a curable adhesive.
23. (New) The machine knife in accordance with claim 20, wherein the blade is connected with the blade holder with the aid of a soldering material.
24. (New) The machine knife in accordance with claim 20, wherein the blade is connected with the blade holder by means of welding, and in particular ultrasound welding.
25. (New) The machine knife in accordance with claim 6, wherein for the releasable connection between the knife support and the blade holder respectively a threaded bore in the knife support, a pass-through bore, which is aligned with it and whose entry is widened, as well as screw means, which can be embedded in a flat and flush manner in the blade holder, are multiply provided.

*Concluded*

*CJ*